

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

FRB-03 OMB-01 OIC-02 IO-13 L-03 NSC-05 SS-15 /090 R

DRAFTED BY EB/FTD:SFOUTS:CSH

APPROVED BY EB/FTD:WRBREW:CSH

COMMERCE:GAREL

LABOR:IKRAMER

NEA/INS:BBROWN

STR:MBSMITH

----- 002144

P R 041546Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, IN

SUBJECT: TEXTILE TALKS

TOKYO - HOLD FOR TEXTILE TEAM

REF: (A) NEW DELHI 11268 (B) STATE 189955

1. REGRET ANY CONFUSION OR PROBLEM WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN
CAUSED BY NON-RECEIPT OF AGENDA. ITEMS WHICH GOI WISHES TO
DISCUSS AS OUTLINED IN JULY 14 LETTER FROM MINISTER J.N.
DIXIT OF INDIAN EMBASSY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(1) REVIEW OF THE VARIOUS PROBLEMS FACED BY THE TWO
COUNTRIES DURING THE CURRENT YEAR WITH A VIEW TO FIND
WORKABLE SOLUTIONS;

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(2) REVIEW OF THE PROBLEMS FACED BY INDIAN EXPORTERS

CAUSED BY DECEMBER 1975 REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT LEADING TO
LARGE SCALE MODIFICATIONS IN QUOTAS;

(3) TO DEVISE IMMEDIATE AND PRACTIAL SOLUTIONS FOR EASING
THETRADE FLOWS, WHICH HAVE SINCE BEEN CHOCKED UP,
THROUGH AD HOC ADDITIONAL QUOTAS;

(4) REVIEW OF THE PROCEDURES IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGE-
MENTS WITH A VIEW TO AVOID INTERPRETATIONS OF DEFINITIONS
AND PROCEDURES IN THE AGREEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGE-
MENTS TO AVOID UNCERTAINTIES IN TRADE;

(5) TO CONSIDER WAYS AND MEANS AND DEVISE APPROPRIATE
PROCEDURES FOR A SMOOTH FLOW OF TRADE DURING THE AGREEMENT
YEAR OCTOBER 1976 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1977; AND

(6) ANY OTHER MATTER WITH MUTUAL CONSENT.

2. UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED IN RESPONSE
TO MAY 21 GOI REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS TO REVIEW OVERALL
OPERATION OF AGREEMENT. PARAGRAPH 12 OF BILATERAL AGREE-
MENT REQUIRES U.S. TO COMPLY WITH SUCH A REQUEST. WE
ASKED GOI TO GIVE US PROPOSED AGENDA BEFORE SETTING DATE
FOR CONSULTATIONS IN ORDER TO AVOID UNFORSEEN DISAPPOINT-
MENTS ON PART OF GOI DURING TALKS. IN OUR RESPONSE TO
DIXIT'S LETTER, WE STATED U.S. WOULD BE PREPARED DISCUSS
FULL RANGE OF OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE
BILATERAL AGREEMENT, BUT NOTED THAT SEVERAL OF THE LISTED
PROBLEM AREAS, INCLUDING AD HOC QUOTAS, HAD BEEN COVERED
IN PREVIOUS EXCHANGES. U.S. ALSO EXPRESSED OUR DESIRE
TO DISCUSS MAJOR REVIEW AND FUTURE OF MFA. BELIEVE GOI
EMBASSY HAS INFORMED GOI THAT U.S. WISHES TO DISCUSS MFA,
BUT EMBASSY SHOULD CONFIRM OUR INTEREST WITH RAMAKRISHNA.
WE BELIEVE SUCH DISCUSSION IS TIMELY IN LIGHT OF JULY 27
PROPOSAL BY CHAIRMAN OF GATT TEXTILES COMMITTEE THAT
MEETING BE HELD BEGINNING NOVEMBER 30 TO COVER MAJOR REVIEW
AND FUTURE OF MFA.

3. SEVERAL POINTS IN GOI AGENDA CONCERN TECHNICAL
PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE ARISEN IN THE OPERATION OF THE AGREE-
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MENT; WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THESE PROBLEMS CAN BE SATIS-
FACTORILY RESOLVED DURING THE DISCUSSIONS.

4. WE ARE AWARE THAT GOI WILL IN ALL LIKELIHOOD PRESENT
REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL QUOTA FOR BOTH CURRENT AND NEXT
AGREEMENT YEAR. AS NOTED ABOVE, WE HAVE DRAWN GOI ATTENTION
TO OUR NEGATIVE RESPONSE TO THEIR EARLIER REQUEST FOR AD
HOC QUOTA INCREASES. WE DO NOT HAVE SPECIFIC RESPONSE

PLANNED TO ANY FURTHER GOI REQUEST FOR QUOTA INCREASES. RATHER, WE INTEND TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE ON TEXTILES WHICH WE HAVE CONDUCTED WITH GOI OVER PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, BOTH IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH OUR OBLIGATION TO CONSULT UNDER BILATERAL AGREEMENT AND TO FACILITATE OPERATION OF AGREEMENT TO EXTENT POSSIBLE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF OUR OVERALL TEXTILE PROGRAM.

5. AS NOTED REFTTEL (B), GOI EMBASSY HAS AGREED TO CHECK WITH GOI AND NOTIFY US OF PREFERRED STARTING DATE FOR CONSULTATIONS. WE ARE PREPARED TO BEGIN ON AUGUST 18 OR TO DELAY FIRST FORMAL MEETING UNTIL AUGUST 19. IF THERE IS A DELAY, WE RECOMMEND PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN CHAIRMAN OF U.S. DELEGATION, SMITH AND CHAIRMAN INDIAN DELEGATION BE HELD ON AUGUST 18. DELEGATION WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH AMBASSADOR TO DISCUSS CONSULTATIONS IN ADVANCE OF FIRST MEETING WITH GOI. HABIB

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